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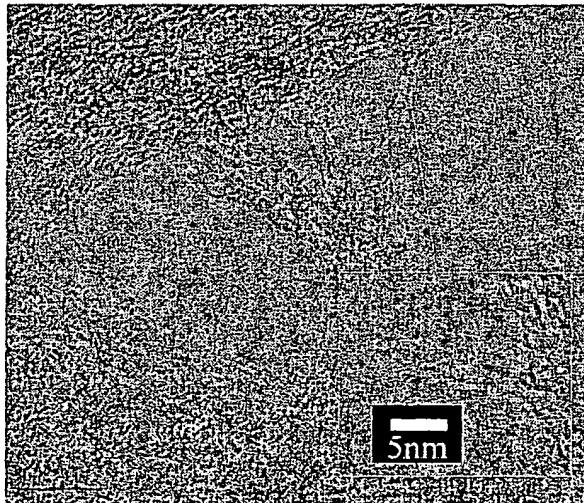
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- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): KHABASHESKU, Valery, N. [US/US]; 2421-B Dorrington Street, Houston, TX 77030 (US). ZHANG, Lei [CN/US]; 2209 S. Braeswood, No. 31J, Houston, TX 77030 (US).
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- (74) Agents: GARSSON, Ross Spencer et al.; WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C., P.O. Box 50784, Dallas, TX 75201-0784 (US).
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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): WILLIAM MARSH RICE UNIVERSITY [US/US]; 6100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005 (US).
- (71) Applicant (*for US only*): MARGRAVE, Mary Lou (legal representative of the deceased inventor).
- (72) Inventor: MARGRAVE, John, L. (deceased).

[Continued on next page]

- (54) Title: SIDEWALL FUNCTIONALIZATION OF CARBON NANOTUBES WITH HYDROXYL-TERMINATED MOIETIES



- (57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to methods of forming sidewall-functionalized carbon nanotubes, wherein such functionalized carbon nanotubes have hydroxyl-terminated moieties covalently attached to their sidewalls. Generally, such methods involve chemistry on carbon nanotubes that have first been fluorinated. In some embodiments, fluorinated carbon nanotubes ("fluoronanotubes") are reacted with mono-metal salts of a dialcohol, MO-R-OH, where M is a metal and R is hydrocarbon or other organic chain and/or ring structural unit. In such embodiments, -O-R-OH displaces -F on the nanotube, the fluorine leaving as MF. Generally, such mono-metal salts are formed *in situ* by the addition of MOH to one or more dialcohols in which the fluoronanotubes have been dispersed. In some embodiments, fluoronanotubes are reacted with amino alcohols, such as being of the type H₂N-R-OH, wherein -N(H)-R-OH displaces -F on the nanotube, the fluorine leaving as HF.

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